

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for July 5, is paper. Put items in paper, bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

RAB holds meeting

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., tonight, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Bush River Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

For more information, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

Pet clinic hours

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will be closed July 3 and 4 for the Fourth of July holiday. The clinic will be open regular business hours the Friday before, June 30. For appointments or more information, call the VTF, 410-278-3911/4604.

FBI tip line launched

The FBI has set up a staffed 24-hour tip line to further the investigation into the stolen laptop and external media drive, which contains data on millions of veterans and active duty military: 1-800-CALL FBI (1-800-225-5324).

Detectives released a model number for the stolen laptop. It is a Hewlett Packard (HP) Pavilion Notebook Laptop, identified as either model number zv5360us or 5300 series. The external hard drive is a HP External Personal Media Drive. Anyone who purchased a second-hand or used laptop and/or external hard drive with these model numbers after May 3, 2006, is asked to call the FBI tip line.

Ed Center holds FAST Math class

A Functional Academic Skills Training Math class will run 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday, through July 24, in building 4305, room 214. There will be no class July 3 through 7 or on RDO Fridays.

Participation is limited to active duty Soldiers only and is geared to raise their General/Technical Score.

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APG holds bike rodeo

Joint Personal Effects Depot holds change of command

Story and photo by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

Employees, Soldiers and Marines of the Joint Personal Effects Depot assembled on Fanshaw Field for a change of command ceremony June 19. Lt. Col. Deborah S. Skillman relinquished command to Lt. Col. L. Scott Kilmon Jr.

JPED's mission is to process personal effects of all Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guard, DoD civilians and contractors injured or killed during Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

Col. Paul Johnson, assistant director of Casualty Memorial Affairs Operations Center, said the ceremony was "...a pledge that we as a nation may continue to rely on [JPED] to perform its mission regardless of changes within its ranks."

He thanked CMAOC leaders, Col. Mary Togerson, CMAOC director, Skillman and the rest of the unit for their "superb accomplishment of a very challenging mission during a trying time for our nation."

In addition, Johnson said



From left, Col. Paul Johnson, assistant director of the Army Casualty Memorial Affairs Operations Center, Lt. Col. L. Scott Kilmon, incoming commander of Joint Personal Effects Depot, outgoing Commander Lt. Col. Deborah S. Skillman and Master Sgt. Elder Williams, depot sergeant major, pass the guidon during the JPED Change of Command ceremony June 19 at Fanshaw Field.

that Togerson, Skillman and the entire staff took care of "fallen Soldiers, Marines and

their families with the utmost sensitivity and concern."

In the past 18 months, JPED

processed more than 3,800 cases of personal effects, according to Skillman.

"It's not a number I like to brag about, but to remind myself that what we do at the JPED impacts those who have suffered a tremendous loss," she said.

"This past winter was one of the worst times for casualties. The increase in casualties caused the staff to work longer hours six days a week. The staff had to work split shifts just to keep up with all the processing of personal effects," Skillman said.

She also spoke about the renovations at the JPED, which is in an old World War II facility. The renovations came after help and financing from the Army's senior leadership.

She thanked the Garrison and Ordnance Center and Schools, who played a major role in the renovations with numerous donations to the facility.

"The impact on the staff has been amazing," she said. "It has not only improved the way in which we process personal effects, but improved the quality of life for our Soldiers, Marines and civilians."

The JPED will relocate in the next few years to a new

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APG enforcing 'Click it or Ticket'

DSHE

Law enforcement agencies across the mid-Atlantic region have started conducting nighttime checkpoints and roving patrols focusing on safety belt usage. The program is being coordinated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Mid-Atlantic Region, and will be in effect in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

The new NHTSA's report provides a detailed state-by-state profile of people who still don't buckle up. Nationally 48 million Americans or 18 percent still fail to buckle up, according to a recently released report by the NHTSA, but it varies by state. A total of 31,693 passenger vehicle occupants died in traffic crashes nationwide during 2004; 55 percent of those killed were not wearing their safety belts at the time of the crash.

"It's an indisputable fact that safety belts help save lives," said NHTSA Acting Administrator Jacqueline Glassman. "Still, millions of Americans aren't buckling up every time they are in a motor vehicle. The crackdown is about preventing tragedies through awareness, strong laws and highly visible enforcement of those laws. Today's message is simple, for your own sake,

click that safety belt or plan on getting a ticket."

The report found that most of those not buckling up were mostly young and male, likely to live in rural areas and/or drive pickup trucks.

About "Click it or Ticket"

Click It or Ticket is a national public safety initiative that combines active law enforcement, paid public awareness advertising and the support of government agencies, local schools, community organizations and others. It continues to be an extremely effective means for increasing safety belt use – and saving lives – across the country.

More than 12,000 law enforcement agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will conduct safety belt checkpoints and other special law enforcement activities as part

of the effort.

It is a high-publicity law enforcement effort that gives people more of a reason to buckle up. Most people buckle up for safety. But for some people, it is the threat of the ticket that spurs them to put on a safety belt. In Click It or Ticket programs, law enforcement agencies are being asked to mobilize to focus on safety belt violations and publicize the stepped-up effort through news media and advertising. It is the

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Military.com offers online veteran transition assistance

Story by
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APG News

Military.com has joined with Monster.com to launch a new Veterans Transition Center in its latest endeavor to help the men and women of America's armed forces.

The site which launched May 26 is said to offer the latest information on health benefits, careers, education, relocation and more.

It also contains state-of-the-art tools such as the 'skills translator' to convert military experiences to civilian language, review thousands of jobs and connect with 280,000 veteran mentors.

In addition, members can browse military-friendly schools that offer credit for military experience and research \$300 million in military scholarships.

Designed with the input of veterans and employers, the new Veteran Transition Center enables veterans to make the most of their military experience and benefits as well as connect efficiently with career opportunities.

The popular veteran job board, which is the heart of the transition center, serves more than half of all transitioning veterans looking for jobs.

Also available is a resume center, interviewing tips, a list of military-friendly employers, education and training options, success stories, a popular career fields listing and benefits information.

The Transition Center provides access to the nation's largest military and veteran networking tool, the Veteran Career Network, where more than 280,000 people have enrolled to assist veterans in finding opportunities in their career field, location and

organization.

According to Military.com founder and president Christopher Michel, the site was created to help ease the separation from military life.

"Enabling our members is what this company is all about," Michel said.

At 8 million members strong, Military.com is the largest military membership organization in the country, he added.

Michel started Military.com seven years ago in an effort to "bring the military together."

Along with useful information for service members and veterans, the site also offers assistance to family members.

"We have 300,000 spouses enrolled in the Military.com Spouse Career Center where they can access more than one million job sites," Michel said.

"We think veterans deserve better jobs and this is a way for companies to find them. Today, we help half the nation's transitioning veterans," he said.

Although many military installations already provide VA transition services for veterans, Military.com is a part of that effort, he added.

"The military centers offer resources for employment and we are just one of those resources," Michel said. "The difference is we serve millions throughout their lives, whether they left the service during the Vietnam Era or during the War on Terror. We are veterans working for veterans and we can help leverage their military experience to those who can use it."

For more information, visit www.military.com.

Four indicted in bribery, procurement fraud scheme at APG Three ATC employees and salesman charged in conspiracy

U.S. Attorney's Office

A federal grand jury has indicted Douglas Atwell, 51, of Port Deposit; Wayne Silbersack, 64, of Forest Hill; Gerard Yursis, 45, of Parkton; and Ellis Lonabaugh, 52, of Elkton; for conspiracy to defraud the United States, bribery and theft of government property. The indictment was returned June 21, and unsealed June 22 after the arrests of the defendants.

The 15-count indictment alleges that from January 2003 to November 2004 Atwell, Yursis and Lonabaugh, civilian employees of the U.S. Army, employed at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, purchased equipment at inflated prices on behalf of the Army from Wayne Silbersack, a commissioned salesman for Lawson Products. The indictment alleges that to induce them to make purchases from Lawson Products, Silbersack arranged for Army purchases to be falsely described on Lawson

order forms and invoices and to be diverted to the personal use of Atwell, Yursis, Lonabaugh and Silbersack.

According to the indictment, Atwell placed orders in excess of \$400,000 on behalf of the Army through Lawson Products, enabling Wayne Silbersack to earn a higher commission; Lawson Products to earn higher profits through excessive mark ups; and in some instances, Atwell and others to receive the equipment for their personal use.

The indictment charges that Yursis permitted the budgets he controlled as a test director to be charged for equipment ostensibly purchased for the Army, but in fact purchased so that Lawson received a higher mark up and/or the equipment was diverted to the personal use of Yursis, Atwell and Lonabaugh.

The indictment alleges that Silbersack created a Lawson Products order form and Lawson Products invoices for transmission to the U.S. Army which falsely described the items

ordered by Atwell in order to conceal the use of government funds to pay for items not needed or intended for ATC.

For example, an 8,000 watt generator was described as a "metric nuts washer assortment" on an invoice sent to the Army.

In addition, the indictment alleges that Silbersack arranged for a number of the items purchased by the Army to be delivered to the homes of the defendants, rather than to ATC. The items received from Silbersack by the government employees included a Dell computer delivered to Atwell's home address, a shed delivered to Atwell's home address described on invoices as a "large hardware assortment," golf balls falsely described as a "ball bearing assortment," an air compressor delivered to Yursis described as "an electrical kit," and a shed installed at Yursis' home address described as "con/mat tools." For the latter shed, the Army paid \$8,250, while Silbersack

had Lawson Products pay \$4,929 to Home Depot.

According to the indictment, beginning in the fall of 2004, the Army audited the ATC government purchase card program to account for the property ordered through those accounts, including property ordered by Atwell through Wayne Silbersack. To defeat the audit, Yursis and Lonabaugh delivered property which had been diverted to private use to ATC.

The defendants face a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for conspiracy to defraud the United States; 15 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 for bribery; and 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for theft of government property.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.